Thomas Willis M:D.

A

Plain and Easie Method

FOR

Preserving [by God's Blessing] those that are WELL from the Infection of the

PLAGUE,

AND

For Curing such as are Infected with it.

Written in the Year 1666.

By *Tho. Willis*, M. D. late Sidney Professor in *Oxford*, and a Member of the Royal Society and College of Physicians in *London*.

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EX BIBL UNIV. EDINBURGEN

TO THE

READER.

Good Reader,

HAving been hitherto very averſe from Publiſhing any of Dr. *Willis*'s Poſthumous Works, becauſe it may be preſum'd that they want his laſt Hand to compleat them; and for

a that

that Reaſon, giving no ear till now to any Entreaties of that kind, though never ſo powerful, or never ſo importunate: I think my ſelf oblig'd to give the World ſome Account why I alter'd my mind as to this particular, and did at length ſuffer my ſelf to be prevail'd with to Print the following Treatiſe, it being now Fifteen Years after his Death; and it is briefly this: A worthy Friend

Friend and an old Acquaintance of mine, desiring if I knew of, or could procure any choice and approv'd Receipts against the Plague, that I would furnish him with some for a Friend of his, for the preservation of whose Health he had a singular concern, and who was going in the late Embassie to *Constantinople*, where that Distemper then was, and did frequently rage: I pro-

mis'd to uſe my utmoſt endeavours to ſupply him; and calling to mind this ſhort Tract, which I tranſcrib'd from the Doctor's Papers in the Year 1666, being then his *Amanuenſis*; I knew it would far exceed whatſoever I could elſewhere obtain, or pretend to collect upon this Subject: Whereupon I allow'd him to take a Copy of it for his Friend's uſe, upon condition he would not make

make it publick. But not long ſince a ſuſpicious Sickneſs having ſeiz'd their Majeſties Army in *Ireland*, the ſame Perſon was very much of opinion, that the Printing of it might do great ſervice, ſhould that Diſeaſe prove Peſtilential; and urg'd ſuch Arguments, as made me to be alſo of the ſame perſwaſion; eſpecially, he having ſhew'd the Copy to ſeveral of the moſt eminent

minent Phyſicians amongſt us, whoſe opinion it was, as he aſſur'd me, that the Publiſhing of it might be of very great uſe, it being a charitable inſtruction in caſes of great danger, for ſuch as cannot procure the attendance of Phyſicians: I muſt needs own, that I could not withſtand the judgment of ſuch Perſons.

The regard I have always had, and ſhall ſtill have

have for the Reputation and Memory of my dear *Maſter*, and beſt *Friend*, will not, I preſume, be thought to leſſen, by my giving way upon theſe terms to this Publication; ſince it is ſo earneſtly deſir'd, and ſo well eſteem'd of: And the Good that is aim'd at by it can be no ill Apology for

Thy Friend and Servant,

St. Martins-Lane, Sept. 1. 1690. *J. Hemming.*

A Plain and Eaſie

METHOD, &c.

IN time of **Peſtilence**, becauſe a Phyſician cannot eaſily, or often, be conſulted with; Therefore it behoveth all Perſons, as well Poor as Rich, to be furniſh'd with Remedies againſt that Contagious Diſeaſe; and certain Rules, or a Method how to uſe them: Which Method being very plain, and almoſt the ſame to all People, conſiſts chiefly in theſe

two Parts, *viz.* **How to preſerve the Whole from takeing Infection; And how to cure the Sick that are infected.**

Touching the Firſt; Though the ſureſt way is to fly from it, yet in regard this cannot be done by all, ſome Means ſhould be us'd to ſecure [ſo far as it is poſſible] thoſe that are forced to ſtay by it. Such Means of **Prevention**, either concern the Publick Magiſtrate, which are already ſufficiently known, and commonly practis'd in all places that are infected, and it would be ſuperfluous to repeat them here; Or elſe ſuch as belong to private Perſons, what ways every Man that lives in, or near an infected place, may arm himſelf

ſelf againſt the danger of Contagion; Which ſhould be endeavour'd, as well by purifying the Air we breathe, as alſo by fortifying our ſelves againſt taking the Infection at our Noſtrils, Mouth, or Pores of the Body, which are the chiefeſt, if not the only parts the Poiſon creeps in at.

That the Air we breathe in may be wholeſome, all Things, that may advance or add to the corruption of it, ſhould diligently be removed; our Houſes, and Streets kept clean; all Filth, and whatever may cauſe noiſom ſmells, be taken away; and amongſt other things, the ſmell of Sope-Suds, and Lye, in the waſhing of Clothes, be avoided; this, Experience has taught to be very

dangerous; as 'tis obſerved by **Diemerbroek** and **Vander Heyden**.

Beſides the ſuppreſſing of Vapours that may increaſe the infection of the **Air**, it is to be purg'd of that Malignity it brings with it from other infected places; and this is done by great Fires, which ſhould be continually kept, except the **W**eather be too hot, and by Fumes of *Sulphur*, *Nitre*, *Frankincenſe*, *Pitch*, *Roſin*, *Tarr*, and the like, which every day ſhould be burnt in the Room we moſt frequent, alſo before our Doors, and on the tops of our Houſes. Of ſimple Medicines to be us'd for this purpoſe, *Brimſtone* is commended for the beſt that is; 'Tis likely that *Vitriol*, which partakes much of

of the like acid Spirit, may be very proper; but in regard 'tis not eaſily combuſtible, make this mixture, and ſtrew of it on Coals in a hot Chafing-diſh.

Take green Vitriol *calcin'd*, Saltpeter, *and* Sulphur, *of each a pound, beat them well together, and keep it for uſe.*

In cloſe Rooms, and in hot Weather, Vinegar *with* Rue, *or* Wormwood, *chopt ſmall, and evaporated in a perfuming Pot; or elſe Peſtilential* Vinegar [as we ſhall deſcribe] *thrown on a hot Brick. Or*

take Myrrh, Galbanum, Ammoniac, *of each half an Ounce; boyl these in a Quart, or three Pints of* White-Wine Vinegar, *'till they are all dissolv'd; put half a spoonful of this at a time on a hot Brick.*

Some commend Slakeing of *Lime*, supposing the fume that ariseth from it, may purifie the Air: 'Tis possible, if this be done with *Vinegar*, either simple, or impregnated with *Alexipharmacal* Medicines, it may be more effectual.

Next to the Cure of the **Air**, to render that as wholesom as we can; we must arm our selves against taking in that Malignity, which [notwithstanding all means of

of purifying it] ſhall ſtill remain mixt with it. Now becauſe the Spirits are commonly the firſt that receive Infection; We muſt fortifie them, that they may not eaſily admit the approaches of their Enemy, which when they are in full vigour and expanſion, they will repel, and as it were keep off at a diſtance; Therefore **Wine** and **Confidence** are a good **Preſervative** againſt the **Plague:** But when the Spirits, through fear, or want of ſupply, do recede, and are forc'd to give back, the Enemy enters, and firſt ſeizeth them, and thence gets into the Blood and Humors; Therefore much **Faſting** and **Emptineſs** are **bad**: But every one ſhould Eat and Drink at convenient Hours, in ſuch manner

manner and measure, as may always keep the Spirits lively and chearful, and endeavour to compose his Mind and Affection against fear and sadness.

But besides keeping the Spirits in a good height, and more especially when that cannot be done, as in Persons that are naturally fearful, and of a tender Constitution, the Spirits should constantly, as it were, be kept arm'd with such Remedies as resist the Poyson; that is, the use of proper Antidotes against the **Plague**.

I shall set down some **Preservatives** to be taken of every Morning, and again at Night, by those that live in infected places.

Take

Take of Conſerve of Wood-Sorrel *four Ounces*; Confectio Liberans, *and* Mithridate, *of each half an Ounce*; *Salt of* Wormwood *two Drams*; *Confection of* Hyacinth *one Dram*; Tormentil *Roots, and fine* Bole, *of each half a Dram*; *Peſtilential* Vinegar *half an Ounce*; *mix all with Syrup of* Citron; *Take as much as a Nutmeg, Night and Morning.*

For the Poorer Sort, that Medicine of the Ancients, may be proper, *viz.*

Take of Rue *two handfuls,* Figs *and* Walnut-Kernels, *of each twenty four, common Salt half an Ounce; Which beat all together in a Mortar, till it be well mix'd; Take of it as much as a Nutmeg every Morning and Night.*

This Medicine may be several ways advanc'd, by adding some *Alexipharmacal* Remedies to it, as by putting Salt of *Wormwood*, instead

inſtead of common Salt, and by adding an Ounce of *Venice Treacle*, to the whole Compoſition.

For thoſe that cannot take an *Electuary*, theſe *Tablets* may be proper to eat, about one Dram at a time, two or three times a day.

Take of the Roots of Virginian-Snakeweed, Zedoary, Contrayerva, Species Liberans, *of each two Drams*; Camphire *two Drams*; *mix all finely pouder'd, then diſſolve eight Ounces of fine*

fine Sugar in Peſtilential Vinegar; *Boyl it Candy high, and adding the Pouder to it, make all into Lozenges.*

For ſome that are of a hotter Conſtitution, and a high Sanguine Temper, it may be proper to take every Morning a ſpoonful of Peſtilential *Vinegar* in a little *Carduus* water, or plain *Wallnut* water; or elſe drink a draught of *Poſſet-Drink*, made with a Spoonful of that *Vinegar.*

Let the **Peſtilential Vinegar** be made thus.

Take

Take of the Roots of Angelica, Butter-Burr, Tormentil, Elecampane, *of each half an Ounce*, Virginian -- Snake-Weed, *choice* Zedoary, Contrayerva, *of each three Drams*; *Leaves of* Scordium, Rue, Goats-Rue, *of each one handful*; Marigold Flowers, Clove-gilloflowers, *of each half a handful*; *Seeds of* Citron *and* Carduus, *of each two Drams*; *Cut and bruise these, and put*

put them in a Glaſs-Bottle, with three Pints of the beſt Vinegar, *to digeſt for ten days.*

When the Stomach, by frequent taking of one ſort of **Antidote**, begins to loath it: In ſuch Caſes the uſe of it may be changed into ſome other: And if the Stomach withal ſhould be ill, and defective, in Appetite and Digeſtion; let the Party take every Morning, ten or twelve Drops of **Elixir Proprietatis,** in plain *Wormwood* Water, or elſe in *Wormwood* Wine.

Thoſe that have Coughs, and ill Lungs, may take five or ſix Drops of **Balſum** of **Sulphur,** made thus.

Take

Take Flower of Sulphur, *two Ounces, melt it in an Earthen Diſh glaz'd on the fire, then put to it two Ounces of* Salt of Wormwood; *ſtir it for a Quarter of an* Hour, *taking care that it does not catch fire; Then put into it of* Aloes, Myrrh, Olibanum, *finely pouder'd, of each one* Dram, *of* Saffron *half a* Dram; *Keep this ſtirring half a Quarter of an* Hour; *Take it off, and put half an Ounce of it pouder'd,*

to

to digeſt in five or ſix Ounces of good Spirit of Wine; It will take in a ſhort time a very excellent Tincture: Which keep for uſe.

Or elſe this Balſam may be made with *Spiritus Theriacalis Camphoratus*, and ſo will be more effectual againſt the **Plague**, Or which is more applicable to uſe,

Put an Ounce of that Pouder newly made, into a pretty large Glaſs, and put to it a Quart of good

good Sack; Set it in a gentle heat, for three or four Hours, it will take a Tincture: And of this one may take half a Spoonful at a time: And I ſuppoſe two Spoonfuls in a convenient Vehicle, *may be a good* Sudorifick *to be given one that is infected.*

Though Purging in time of Peſtilence is not good, as **Diemerbroek** by frequent Examples has obſerv'd, yet in *Cachochymick* Bodies, it may be convenient once in a fortnight, to take a Doſe of *Pillulæ Ruffi*; Take

half a Dram at Night, and next Morning take the wonted Antidote, as at other times.

Alſo for thoſe that live in an infected Air, that there is ſuſpicion that they may daily take in ſome peſtiferous Vapours, which fermenting with the Blood and Humours, may inſenſibly at laſt break out in the **Plague**; it may not be amiſs, once or twice a week, to take pretty large **Sweats** in their Beds: And this to be done, eſpecially if the Party has had any occaſion whereby he may ſuſpect himſelf to have been more open to infection, or that he has taken any: After ſuch Sweat he ſhould keep his Chamber the forepart of the day, till the Pores are reduc'd to be as they were before.

To

To provoke such a Sweat: *Take of* Venice Treacle, *one* Dram; *dissolve it in three Ounces of* Carduus *Water, add a Spoonful of* Syrup *of Pestilential* Vinegar; *Or take a Draught of Posset-Drink, made with Pestilential* Vinegar; *In which boyl a few* Petasitis *Roots: To promote and continue the Sweat, take Posset-Drink with* Meadow-Sweet, *or else with* Carduus, *or* Marigold-Flowers *boyl'd in it.*

Beſides the daily and conſtant uſe of ſuch *Alexipharmacal* Remedies, there are other Means, which occaſionally and ſometimes continually ſhould be taken. For in regard we always draw in the Air at our Noſtrils and Mouth, theſe parts ſhould be well guarded with ſome Antidotes, that may keep out the poyſonous Vapours from entring in, and eſpecially as often as upon occaſion we are more nearly expos'd to danger of Infection. To this end, ſome things to ſmell to, others to be held in the Mouth, chew'd, and ſwallow'd down, are frequently to be inſiſted on.

That which ſeems at once to fulfil moſt of theſe intentions, is taking of Tobacco in a Pipe; the Smoke of this ſecures thoſe parts which lye

lye openeſt, and at once intercepts the Contagion from the Brain, Lungs, and Stomach: Nay more than this, it ſtirs the Blood and Spirits all the Body over, and makes them ſhake off any poyſonous Matter that adher'd to them: Inſomuch that **Diemerbroek** accounts it not only a Preſervative, but tells us, that himſelf, when he was ſeveral times infected, by taking five or ſix Pipes of Tobacco together was preſently cur'd. And amongſt us in *England* 'tis reported, That in the laſt great Plague, no Tobacco-Shop was infected: If 'tis not of ſo great virtue ſtill amongſt us, the reaſon is, becauſe moſt Men have been accuſtomed to take it ſo exceſſively; wherefore it is grown ſo familiar to them, that it produceth no al-

teration when it ſhould be us'd as an Antidote.

Beſides the frequent uſe of Tobacco, which doubtleſs in time of Plague may be profitable for them that can take it; others, and alſo Tobacconiſts, at ſome times ſhould be furniſhed with ſomething to ſmell to when they paſs through infected Places. *Wormwood* and *Rue*, *Galbanum*, *Caſtor* and *Vinegar* are good: The vulgar practice of putting *Mithridate*, or *Treacle*, or *Tar* in their Noſtrils, may be very uſeful; or to have a *Pomander* to carry in ones hand, or put into the top of a Staff.

Take of the Roots of Contrayerva *and* Virginian-Snakeweed *pouder'd,*

der'd, of each Two Drams; of the beſt Myrrh *pouder'd, half an Ounce; of* Camphire *half a Dram. Let it be made a Pouder.*

Part of this may be enclos'd in a fine Silk Bag, and oftentimes dip it in *Peſtilential Vinegar*, and ſo ſmell to it. To the other part of this, add *Oyl of Nutmegs* by Expreſſion, and *Oyl of Cap-ivy*, of each a Dram, or as much as will make it into a Maſs; alſo add of *Balſam of Peru* one Scruple. Dip Cotton Wool in *Elixir Proprietatis*, incloſe it in fine Silk, and put it in the head of a Staff, or Civet Box, to ſmell to.

For Medicines to hold in the Mouth, and chew on, Roots of

Zedoary, *Contrayerva*, and *Snake-weed* are very good; alſo Roots of *Enulacampane*, *Angelica*, and *Maſter-wort*; theſe either alone, or macerated in *Vinegar*, and dried again. *Myrrh* is very excellent: Some commend Tobacco, and chew it almoſt continually.

Theſe are the chiefeſt Remedies which help to keep Infection out of the Body. There is yet another ſort which ſerves to let it out, and carry it away, before it grows to a head, *viz. Iſſues*, which have been found by often experience to be good Preſervatives in time of Plague: For as much as Nature having a conſtant vent for excrementitious matter thrown off the Blood, by the ſame way expels poyſonous Atoms ſoon after they are receiv'd into the Body.

Con-

Concerning Rules of Diet I need not ſay much, becauſe ſuch Precepts are commonly known: 'Tis to be obſerv'd in general, that only wholſome Food ſhould be taken: Very ſalt Meats, as hang'd Beef, Bacon, Pork, ſalt Fiſh, alſo ſhell-Fiſh, moſt kind of Herbage and raw Fruit ſhould be avoided. The Meals ſhould be moderate, and eaten in due ſeaſon. Some Antidotal Things may be taken with the Meat, or mix'd in the Sauce; *Clove Gilloſlowers* pickled, alſo *Citron* Peel and Juice, *Rasberries*, *Currants*, *Pomegranate* Juices, *Peſtilential Vinegar*, and *Muſtard*, made with the Seeds of *Thlaſpi*, may be of ſome good effect.

Theſe kind of Remedies, and manner of living, ought chiefly to be inſiſted on as Preſervatives againſt

againſt the Plague. Thoſe that are timorous and of tender Conſtitutions require a ſupport from the uſe of more means; whereas Perſons that are ſtrong, and of a bold temper, have need of the leſs Remedies. But 'tis not ſafe for any to be ſo confident as to dare to converſe with infected People, or live in the midſt of Contagion without any Antidote at all.

In the uſe of means, caution is to be had, that ſtrong and hot Cordials be not too often taken, nor yet indifferently by all People; for that will inflame the Blood, and make it apt to kindle a Fever, which at ſuch times ſoon turns to the Plague.

The like caution is to be had againſt immoderate drinking of Wine; though a moderate proportion

portion chears and fortifies the Spirits, yet too much greatly diſorders them, and thereby People are more expos'd to take Infection.

Letting of Blood in time of Plague has been obſerv'd to be very pernicious; ſo alſo oft or ſtrong Purging; for the Veins being emptied either way, will readily ſuck in whatever poyſonous Atoms lurk in the outward Pores of the Body, which being admitted, become the more prevalent, becauſe the Spirits being depauperated, are leſs able to ſubdue or repel them.

Thus much of the way of Preſervation: Next we are to treat of the Cure of thoſe that are infected.

The Cure of the Plague admits of no Delay; neither indeed

deed is there need of any deliberation what ought to be done; but as ſoon as any one finds himſelf infected, let him forthwith take to his Bed, and having pray'd to Almighty God for his Bleſſing, begin to uſe the Means.

If the Party is much oppreſs'd at his Stomach, and ſtrains to vomit, or elſe with vomiting throws up bitter and ſtinking Matter; let him preſently take a large draught of *Carduus*, or *Camomile* Poſſet-Drink, and in it either half a Dram of Salt of *Vitriol*, or two Ounces of Liquor of *Squills*, and with his finger or a Feather, fetch up what is contain'd in his Stomach; but take no Antimonial Medicine, that will work beyond the Stomach.

As

As ſoon as he has vomited, [or if there is no occaſion for this Evacuation] let him preſently be put into a Sweat, and continue for twelve hours, more or leſs, according as his ſtrength will hold out, and not ſleep in it, or not till the latter end of it.

If when he begins to Sweat, or endeavours it, his Vomiting ſtill perſiſts, then apply to the pit of the Stomach a Toaſt of White-Bread, ſpread over with *Treacle* or *Mithridate*, and dipt in *Claret-Wine* or *Peſtilential Vinegar*, made Scalding hot in a Peuter Diſh; Wrap this in fine Linnen, and apply it very hot.

After a plentiful Sweat for twelve, fourteen, or eighteen hours, give him ſome Refective,

as

as Broth, Caudle, Mace-drink, or the like; and a little while after ſuffer him to ſleep if he can. Then give him temperate Cordials by way of Confection or Julep, or both; which repeat every third or fourth hour: Alſo at the time that the Party ſettles to ſleep, lay *Veſicatory* Plaiſters behind the Ears, and under the Arm-pits, and alſo in the Groin.

After he has ſlept, or endeavour'd it, and his Spirits are pretty well refreſh'd, at a moderate diſtance from the firſt ſweating, *viz.* Eighteen, or Four and Twenty hours, ſooner or later, according as Symptoms are more or leſs urgent, and his ſtrength is able, repeat the Sweating again; and ſo proceed through the whole Cure; one while Sweating, and another

another while refreſhing his Spirits by temperate Cordials and Sleep; betwixt whiles adminiſtring fit Nouriſhment, until ſuch time as the Symptoms are abated wholly, and either the Diſeaſe terminated, or elſe the Malignity is driven all out in Boyls or Carbuncles; which how they muſt be order'd, ſhall be ſet down.

Though the ſame kind of Sudorificks may be given indifferently to moſt People, yet becauſe there is variety of ſuch Medicins, in reſpect both of the Matter and Form of them, therefore ſome choice may be had in the adminiſtration of them, that ſo we may comply with the Patient's taking them beſt in this or that kind of Form; and al-

ſo that thoſe that are hotter be given to Perſons of a cold Temper, and thoſe Medicines which are more temperate to ſuch whoſe Conſtitutions are hot: I ſhall ſet down ſeveral Forms of Sweating Medicines, which are given either in **Potion, Bolus,** or **Powder.**

Potions.

Take of Small Plague Water, *Two Ounces*; Peſtilential Vinegar, *half an Ounce*; *of* Venice Treacle, *one Dram*; *mingle them.*

Take

Take of Compound Scordium Water *two Ounces*; Treacle-*Water half an Ounce*, Venice Treacle *one Dram*, Salt of Wormwood *one Scruple*, Spirit of Vitriol *Six Drops*: Mingle them.

Take of Butter Burr-Water *three Ounces*, Venice Treacle, Diascordium, *of each one Dram*, *Peſtilential* Vinegar *one Spoonful*: Mix them.

Take of Carduus *Water* *Four Ounces*, *Peſtilential* Vinegar *One Ounce*, *Peſtilential* Extract *One Scruple*: Mix them.

Or make ſome Poſſet-Drink *with Peſtilential* Vinegar; *in a Draught of it diſſolve one Dram, or a Dram and a half, of any of theſe Confections, adding one Scruple of Salt of* Wormwood.

In a Spoonful or two of Treacle-

Treacle-Water, *or* Vinegar, *or both mix'd; give fifteen or twenty Drops of* Spirit of Harts-horn, *or of the ſimple Mixture from half a Dram to a Dram; or of* Balſam of Sulphur, *from ten to twenty Drops, or fifteen Drops of* Elixir Proprietatis.

For the Poorer ſort, make *Poſſet-Drink* with Peſtilential *Vinegar*, and boyl in it ſome *Butter-Roots*, and give a Draught hot.

Or make this Potion which **Henricus a Bra** magnifies above all other Remedies, from

the Experience of it in a great Plague once raging in his Country.

Take Celandine *and* Rue, *of each one handful*, Marigold Flowers *half a handful*; *boyl these in a Quart of* White-Wine Vinegar; *strain it out, and keep it in a Glass Bottle*; *give two or three Spoonfuls*; *in which dissolve of* Venice Treacle, *or* Mithridate, *one Dram.* This will provoke Sweat very powerfully.

Some

Some others commend a Decoction of *Guiacum*, to provoke Sweat with it, as in the cure of the *French Pox*.

A plain Decoction of *Rue* in *White Wine*, with a little *Vinegar* added to it, is highly commended by others.

Seeds of *Rue* pouder'd, and one Dram of it mix'd with half a Dram of *Treacle*, dissolv'd with *White-Wine*, is accounted an excellent Sudorifick.

Sudorifick Medicines may be given in **Pouder** thus.

Take of Virginian Snake-weed, Contrayerva,

and Galcoigne *Pouder*, *or* Lady Kent's *Pouder*, *of each one Scruple*; *give it in two Spoonfuls of Poſſet Drink*, *or of a Cordial Julep*, *or in* Syrup of Gilloflowers.

Take Pouder of prepar'd Toad *one Dram*, Pouder of Hyacinth *half a Dram*: Mingle them.

Take of Bezoartica Mineralis *half an Ounce*, *of* Species Liberans *two Scruples*, Camphire *eight*

eight Grains : Mingle them.

Take of the Flower of Sal Armoniac *half a Scruple, of* Ceruſſe of Antimony *one Scruple, of* Bole Armenick *one Scruple* : Mingle them.

Give any of theſe in a Spoonful or two of any Liquor, or in a Spoonful of *Sack*, with as much Peſtilential *Vinegar*; half an hour after, drink a draught of Poſſet-Drink with *Medeſweet*, or *Woodſorrel* boyl'd in it.

Take of the Pouder of Ivy Berries *one Dram*; *give it in a draught of warm* White-Wine, *with a Spoonful of Peſtilential* Vinegar.

Take Pouder of the Roots of Carline Thiſtle; *Give it in the ſame manner.*

Likewiſe Pouder of Butter Burr Root, *given in the ſame manner, provoketh Sweat powerfully, and expelleth*

expelleth the Poyſon of the Plague.

Take of Zedoary Root *that is gummy and ſound, one Ounce,* Sugar Candy *one Ounce and an half,* Camphire *half an Ounce; mix all in a fine Pouder:* The Doſe is one Dram in ſome diſtill'd Water.

If the Patient can beſt take his Medicine in a **Bolus.**

Take of Venice Treacle *one Dram,* Tormentile Roots, Bole prepar'd, of

of each one Scruple, Syrup of Gilloflowers *as much as ſufficeth.*

Take Diaſcordium Confectio Liberans, of *each half a Dram, or two Scruples*, Salt of Wormwood *one Scruple*, Conſerve of Roſes *vitriolated half a Dram*, Syrup of Gilloflowers *as much as is ſufficient.*

Take of Conſerve of Roſes *half a Dram*, Balſam of Sulphur, *fifteen*

fifteen Drops; mix them. Take Poſſet Drink half an hour, or an hour after any of theſe.

When many People are ſick, and there is not leiſure to compound every Doſe of theſe Medicines ſeverally, there ſhould be a large mixturé of each kind made up together, which may immediately, and without trouble be diſtributed into Doſes.

For Sweating Potions thus.

Take a Quart of Small Plague *Water, of* Compound *Water of* Scordium

dium *and* Peſtilenti-
al Vinegar, *of each*
a Quarter of a Pint,
of Syrup of Gillo-
flowers *two Ounces,*
Venice Treacle *one*
Ounce, of Diaſcordi-
um *and* Confectio
Liberans, *of each half*
an Ounce, Peſtilenti-
al Extract, Salt of
Wormwood, *of each*
two Drams; put all to-
gether in a large Glaſs,
ſhake them well together,
and after it has ſtood
Four and Twenty Hours,
make

make uſe of it: Pour out three Ounces of the clear, and two Ounces of it turbid or ſhaken juſt before: This may ſerve for fourteen or ſixteen days.

Mix a Pouder *thus.*

Take of the Pouder of Confectio Liberans, *one Ounce,* Roots of Contrayerva, Virginian-Snakeweed, Tormentile, Bole prepar'd, *of each two Drams, of the* Claws of Crabs *pouder'd*

pouder'd, half an Ounce, mix all very well. The Doſe is from one Dram to one Dram and a half, or two Drams.

Or take of the Pouders of Prepar'd Toad *one Ounce, and of* Confectio Liberans *half an Ounce, mix them.* The Doſe is from one Dram to one Dram and a half.

For an *Electuary* to be diſtributed into ſeveral Doſes, that of **Hermannus Vander Heyden** is a very good one, and as he aſ-

ſerts,

ſerts, approved by frequent Experience.

Take of Diaſcordium *one Ounce and a half, of* Venice Treacle *two Drams, of* Confectio Hyacinthi *one Dram,* Pouder of Nutmegs, Rue *Seeds,* Root of Angelica, Enulacampane, *of each one Dram and a half,* Wine Vinegar (*or rather* Peſtilential Vinegar) *one Ounce,* Oyl of Sulphur *fifteen drops,* Syrup of Juice of Citron *as much*

much as ſufficeth: make up all together. The Doſe is from one Dram and a half to two Drams.

Or take of Conſerve of Wood Sorrel, *half a Pound, of* Mithridate *four Ounces.* The Doſe is two Drams.

In time of Sweating, give the Patient Poſſet Drink made with Peſtilential *Vinegar*; boyl in the Milk *Scordium* or *Marigold* Flowers; if he is very dry, boyl *Medeſweet*, or *Wood Sorrel*; if he is ill at Stomach, and apt to vomit or faint, give *Claret* Wine burnt with *Cinnamon*

namon and *Zedoary* Root, and *Mint* Water mix'd with it: Or elſe give him *Beer* boyl'd with a Cruſt of *Bread* and *Mace*, and ſweetn'd with *Sugar*. Beſides, to the richer ſort give now and then a draught of a *Cordial Julep*, and ſometimes a Doſe of a *Cordial Electuary*; which kind of Medicines ſhould be given likewiſe after Sweating is over, once in three or four hours, of one or other, to refreſh the Spirits, and to keep the Malignity from the Heart. Give him no cold *Beer* in two or three days. After Sweating waſh the Mouth with *White-wine Vinegar* and *Roſe Water*: Alſo dip a Spunge in the ſame warm, and gently ſtroke the Temples of the Head, and Noſtrils with the ſame.

Between whiles give of the Medicines following.

Take Woodsorrel Water, *and* Dragon-Water, *of each Four Ounces*; Scordium Water, *two Ounces*; Treacle Water (*or* Plague Water) *one Ounce and a half*; Syrup of Gilloflowers (*or of* Juice of Citrons) *two Ounces*; Pearle finely pouder'd *one Scruple*; Spirit of Vitriol *twelve Drops*: *Mix them.*

Or

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Or make a **Decoction** *thus.*

Take of Harts-Horn raſp'd, *and* Ivory, *of each three Drams; a* Pear main *ſliced,* Wood-ſorrel *half an handful: Boyl theſe in three* Pints *of Water, till a third part is waſted; Strain it on two Ounces of* Con-ſerve *of* Gilloflowers, *or* Woodſorrel, *or* Red Roſes: *Let it infuſe an hour: then ſtir it, and ſtrain it out: Give a Quarter of a Pint warm.*

Whereas we give *Emulſions*

made with ſuch a Decoction and *Almonds*, and cold Seeds in Fevers, **Diemerbroek** affirms, upon his frequent Obſervation, *Emulſions* never do well in the Plague.

Take of the Conſerve of Woodſorrel *four ounces, of the* Rob of Goosberries *or* Raſberries *two Ounces*, Species Diarrhodon Abbatis *two Drams*, Confectionis Liberantis *one Dram and a half, of* Prepar'd Pearl *half a Dram*, Red Coral prepar'd *one Dram*, *with a ſufficient quantity of*

of Syrup of Juice of Citron: Let it be made an Opiate: The Doſe is one or two Drams often in a day.

Sometimes the Plague is accompanied with dangerous Symptoms, to which if Remedies are not ſuddenly applied, all we do beſides is to little purpoſe. Such Accidents, which call for reſpective ways of Cure, are chiefly *Fluxes of Blood*, and *Looſneſs of the Belly*, and *Vomiting*.

The firſt uſe to happen ſeveral ways, *viz.* at the Noſe and Mouth, by Stool or Urine, by the *Hæmorrhoids*, and in Women by Menſtrual Purgations: Some

of which, as by Urine always, and oft-times by Stool, are mortal; none of them ever tend to good Therefore in all ſuch caſes, Remedies muſt be adminiſtred which may ſtop Bleeding: And though Sweating and Refection of the Spirits be ſtill the principal intention of Cure; yet the other muſt come in as collateral with both of them; and Medicines that reſtrain Fluxes of Blood be mixed both with Sudorificks and other Cordials, and alſo be adminiſtred with Diet too.

In all *Hæmorrhages* Sudorificks muſt be compounded of Medicines that are temperate, and not aſtringent.

For

For **Potions** they be made thus

Take Pimpernel Water, *or* Tormentil Water *two Ounces, of* Scordium Water *six Drams, of* Vinegar *that has* Tormentil Roots infus'd *in it, two Drams,* Confection of Hyacinth *one Dram, of* prepar'd Bole *half a Dram,* Extract of Tormentil *one Scruple, of* Syrup of Coral *three Drams.*

Or make Poſſet Drink *with* Tormentil Vinegar, *boyl in it a* Root of Tormentil *and* Biſtort; *in one draught of it diſſolve of* Venice Treacle *two Scruples*, Confection of Hyacinth, prepar'd Bole, *of each one Scruple.*

Make this *Apozeme*, and give two or three Ounces three or four times in a day.

Take of Tormentil Roots *half an Ounce*, Biſtort *three Drams*, Red Sanders

ders *one Dram*, *of* Pomegranate Peel *one Dram*, St. Johns Wort, Plantane *and* Burnet, *of each half a handful*; Flowers of Roſes, *and* Pomegranates, *of each one Dram and a half*; *of* Plantane Seeds *one Dram*: *Boyl theſe in three Pints of Water till a Pint is waſted*; *ſtrain it, and add to it of* Syrup of Coral *two Ounces*, Confection of Hyacinth *two Drams*: Mingle them.

Powders may be compounded thus.

Take of Confectio Liberans, *or* Confection of Hyacinth *half a Dram*; Tormentil Roots, Fine Bole, *of each one Scruple*; Pearl *and* Coral prepar'd, *of each half a Scruple*: Give it in a Spoonful of *Syrup* of *Coral*, with a Spoonful of *Tormentil Vinegar*.

Make

Make a **Bolus** thus.

Take Confection of Hyacinth and Venice Treacle, *of each half a Dram*; Tormentil Roots *and* prepar'd Bole, *of each one Scruple*; *of* Extract of Tormentil *half a Scruple*, *of* prepar'd Pearl *six Grains*, *of* Syrup of Coral *as much as is sufficient*.

For **Juleps** and **Confections**, to give in, and betwixt *Sweating*,

Sweating, they be compounded thus.

Take of Medeſweet *Water eight Ounces*, ſmall Plague *Water*, Scordium Compound *Water*, *of each three Ounces*; *of* Syrup of Coral *two Ounces*, Confection of Hyacinth *two Drams*, *of* Tormentil Vinegar *half an Ounce*; Mix them: Give four or five Spoonfuls every third hour.

Or take of Conſerve of Red

Red Roſes *four Ounces*, *of* prepar'd Coral *two Drams*, *of* prepar'd Pearl *half a Dram*, Confection of Hyacinth and Alkermes, *of each one Dram*, of Tormentil Vinegar *half an Ounce*; *or as much as is ſufficient*: Make it up into an Electuary: Give once in three or four hours as much as a Nutmeg.

Theſe kinds of Remedies, which are proper in *Hæmorrhages*, are alſo to be uſed in *Fluxes* of the Belly; likewiſe by Women with Child,

Child, becauſe other more hot Medicines may provoke an Abortion.

Make **Tormentil Vinegar** thus.

Take Roots of Tormentil, Biſtort *dried and ſliced, of each an Ounce,* Cinnamon *half an Ounce,* Red Sanders *one Dram: Bruiſe all very well, and put to it a Quart of* White-Wine Vinegar; *digeſt it in a common Furnace for four days: At the ſame time take* Red and White Coral finely pouder'd,

pouder'd, *of each half an Ounce*; Dragons Blood, Blood-Stone, *of each one Dram*; Fine Bole, *two Drams*: *Digeſt theſe in the ſame manner with a* Quart of Vinegar: Then ſtrain out both the Liquors, and mix them.

Let **Extract** of **Tormentil** Roots be made thus.

Take Tormentil *and* Biſtort-Roots, *of each one Ounce*; of Cinnamon *half an Ounce*, of Red Sanders

Sanders *two Drams*, Salt of Wormwood *half an Ounce*; *bruiſe all together, adding of* Tormentil Vinegar *two Ounces*; *put it in a Veſſel to digeſt with three Pints of* Mede-ſweet Water: *Strain it, and evaporate it with a gentle heat in* Balneo Mariæ *to the Conſiſtency of Honey.*

In the Cure of the Plague, if a courſe of Sweating, timely adminiſtred, do plentifully ſucceed, and withal other private Excretions be either prevented or pre-

ſently

ſently ſuppreſt, the Patient may be judg'd to be in a hopeful condition; and ſometimes the Venom is quite expell'd, without any other accident: But for the moſt part, becauſe the Poyſon, by fermenting the Blood and Humours, is ſoon greatly encreas'd; ſo that all of it, eſpecially the groſſer Particles, cannot eaſily evaporate, it ſettles in the outward Parts, and there cauſeth the ſwelling and breaking out of divers kinds: Thoſe that require any application of Remedies, are **Boils** and **Carbuncles**.

The firſt of theſe commonly happen in Parts that are very Glandulous; as behind the Ears, under the Armpits, and in the

Groin: They ariſe with a hard Swelling, which ought to ſuppurate and break, and the Corruption to be drawn all out, by the running of the Sore for ſome time: Theſe Tumors call'd **Bubo's**, ſhould be ordered thus.

If a Bliſter is not rais'd on, or near the place already, 'tis good to apply a *Veſicatory* Plaiſter juſt below it, but on the Tumor it ſelf to apply ſome drawing Medicine, to attract the Venom outward; as at firſt, the Fundament of ſome living Fowl, or elſe a *Colewort-Leaf* dipt in ſcalding Water, and dried again, and ſmear'd over with *Oyl of Lillies* or *Scorpions*. To ripen the Sore, lay on Pultiſes or Plaiſters; or rather firſt Pultiſes, and then

then Plaiſters, when it tends to ſuppuration; which ſhould be renew'd every twelve hours at leaſt.

For Pultiſes.

Take an Onion *and* White Lilly Roots, *boyl them, or elſe wrap them in a wet Paper, and roaſt them in the Embers, afterward ſtamp both together, adding a little* Treacle, *and* Oyl of Lillies *as much as is ſufficient: Or elſe roaſt a* Fig *with either or both theſe above-nam'd,*

and make a Pultis in the ſame manner: Or elſe with either, or all above-named Remedies, add an handful of Scabious *or* Sorrel *waſh'd; and after beat all into a Pultis.*

Take Pimpernel roaſted on the Embers, *mollifie it with* Oyl of Scorpions, *adding a little* Pouder of Myrrh *and* Venice Treacle, *and lay it to the Sore.*

Some

Some do commend live Frogs *to be applyed, and renew'd as oft as they die.*

For a Plaiſter to break the Sore when it is o-pen'd, Diachylon *with* Gums; *or elſe thoſe two Emplaiſters,* viz. Em-plaſtrum Paracelſi, *and* de Fuligine, *men-tion'd by* **Diemerbroek**, *pag.* 213. **Paracelſus** his Plaiſter is there thus order'd to be made.

Take of Gum Oppopanax *two Ounces*, Seraphin *or* Sagapen *four Ounces*, Bdellium *three Ounces*, Galbanum *one Ounce*, Olibanum *two Drams*; *let them be diſſolved in* Vinegar, *and ſtrain'd, and adding the* Pouder of a dried Toad and Frog, *of* Natural Brimſtone *one Ounce*, *of* Camphire *one Dram*: Let it be made a Plaiſter to be

be put upon the Tumor, and renewed every six hours.

Emplastrum de Fuligine, or **Plaister of Soot,** is thus made.

Take of Chimney Soot *ten Drams*, Leaven, Turpentine, Butter, *of each one Ounce*, Venice Sope *one Ounce and a half*, *of* Honey of Roses *six Drams*, Common Salt *half an Ounce*, *the* Whites of two Eggs, Treacle

cle *and* Mithridate, *of each two* Drams: Let them be mixed. *For the Poorer ſort,* Shoemakers Wax *is as good as any.*

If when the Tumor is ripen'd, it do not ſoon break of it ſelf, it is beſt to open it by Inciſion; and when it is broken, put in a Pledget dipp'd in *Turpentine* mix'd with the *Yolk of an Egg*; or dreſs it with *Baſilicon* alone, or the Liniment of *Arceus.*

A **Carbuncle,** which is the other kind of Plague-Sore, which requires the operation of the hand, happens but ſeldom in any of the Emunctories [and when

when it does it portends ill] but uſeth to be in moſt places elſe: It ariſeth with angry *Puſtules*, ſometimes one, ſometimes many; which ſoon grow diſcolour'd, and tend to Mortification, and the ſubſtance mortified muſt be caſt out, and then the hollow Ulcer which remains muſt be healed.

When a *Carbuncle* firſt appears, **Diemerbroek** commends to be applied to it for the firſt and ſecond day, a *Red Colewort Leaf*, ſmear'd over with *Rape Oyl*: The ſame Author mentions a *Pultis* which he us'd for the moſt part, renewing it three or four times in four and twenty hours, till the Core was taken out; and then Digeſtive Medicines, and others ſucceed-

ſucceedingly are to be us'd, as in other *Ulcers.*

Take Scabious *and* Devils Bit, *of each two or three handfuls, ſtamp them, and then beat them with the* Yolks of two Eggs, *and a little* Salt; *lay it to the* Carbuncle *warm, renewing it three times in a day at leaſt.*

FINIS.